

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 EUR-12  
ISO-00 /041 W

-----181129 093055 /20

P R 181114Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9870  
INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 05005

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: UNESCO, AORG, PORG  
SUBJECT: UNESCO: COURRIER COMMUNICATIONS ISSUE AND  
PROGRESS ON OTHER MASS MEDIA FRONTS

1. FEB. 17 CONVERSATION WITH FREE FLOW AND COMMUNI-  
CATIONS POLICY DIVISION OFFICIAL REVEALED PLANS TO  
CHANGE FORMAT OF APRIL "COURRIER" COMMUNICATIONS  
ISSUE. ORIGINAL PLANS, BEQUEATHED BY FORMER COURRIER  
CHIEF WHO RETIRED ON JAN. 1, TO PUBLISH DIFFERING  
POINTS OF VIEW (REPRESENTING WESTERN, SOCIALIST, AND  
VARIOUS THIRD WORLD CONCERNS) APPARENTLY HAS BEEN  
SCRAPPED. INSTEAD, ARTICLES WILL BE OF MORE TECHNICAL  
AND LESS POLITICAL NATURE, NONE REPRESENTING COUNTRIES,  
PER SE, AND PROBABLY FOCUSING ON THEME SUCH AS "IS  
CROSS CULTURAL COMMUNICATION POSSIBLE". PORTIONS OF  
HARLEY AND SOVIET ARTICLES APPARENTLY WILL BE DRAWN ON  
AND PLACED IN NEUTRALIZED CONTEXT, THOUGH NEITHER WILL  
BE PUBLISHED SEPARATELY. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE  
THAT SECRETARIAT HAD APPROACHED TUNISIAN EXPERT  
EARLIER REQUESTING ARTICLE ON THIRD WORLD VIEWS ON  
MASS COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES, BUT THAT TUNISIAON-  
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MENT HAD STEPPED IN TO REFUSE THIS REQUEST.

2. IT IS PROBABLE THAT US DELOFF FEB. 11 CALL ON  
COURRIER EDITORIAL OFFICIALS INQUIRING ABOUT POSSI-  
BILITIES FOR POSTPONING COMMUNICATIONS ISSUE HELPED  
TO TRIGGER CHANGE IN FORMAT. SOURCE INDICATED THAT  
THIS DECISION WAS TAKEN ONLY FOUR DAYS AGO (ABOUT

FEB. 14), AND THAT SEVERAL COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR EXPERTS HAVE BEEN SCRAMBLING EVER SINCE TO FILL OUT NEW FORMAT. USDEL DID NOT FOLLOW UP FEB. 11 APPROACH, MEANING THAT SECRETARIAT TOOK DECISION ENTIRELY ON ITS OWN.

3. CONDONING PREPARATIONS FOR FORMULATING DRAFT

DECLARATION ON THE MASS MEDIA, SOURCE INDICATED THAT PRELIMINARY PROGRAM ANALYSIS DETAILS (PADS) HAS PROVIDED FOR ANALYSES OF RESULTS OF 19TH GEN CONF RE MASS MEDIA DURING FIRST HALF OF 1977 (CURRENTLY UNDERWAY), WITH SUBSEQUENT CONSULTATIONS OVER THREE MONTH PERIOD BY SECRETARIAT REP (WYNTER), SOMETIME DURING FALL, WITH SELECTED MEMBER STATES. IT IS ALSO FORESEEN THAT RESULTS OF THESE CONSULTATIONS AND RESULTS OF GEN CONF WILL BE WORKED INTO A DOCUMENT WHICH WILL THEN BE SUBMITTED TO AD HOC COMMITTEE OF LEGAL EXPERTS WHO WILL ADVISE DIRECTOR GENERAL ON DOCUMENT. THESE RESULTS WILL THEN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MEMBER STATES FOR COMMENT, AS WELL AS TO OTHER NON GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND INTERESTS. WHAT IS LEFT WILL BE WORKED INTO A DRAFT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE 20TH GEN CONF. THERE ARE TO BE NO INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS IN THE INTERIM. IT IS ALSO INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THE DG STILL HAS NOT PROVIDED A BUDGET FOR THE DRAFT DECLARATION PROJECT, AN ADDITIONAL HEADACHE FOR THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR SEEING THAT WORK IS DONE.

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5. LITTLE CAN BE ADDED TO PREVIOUS COMMENTS ON SECRETARIAT PROGRESS IN PUTTING TOGETHER "COMMISSION OF WISE MEN". M'BOW, APPARENTLY, STILL HAS NOT RESPONDED TO LIST OF NAMES OR COMMISSION FORMAT WORKED OUT BY COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR, WHICH IS CAUSING CONCERN AMONG WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS WHO HAD HOPED (AND UNDERSTAND) NECESSITY FOR BEGINNING WITH THIS AMBITIOUS PROJECT IMMEDIATELY. SOURCE CONFIRMED THAT PROJECT WILL COST AT LEAST 750,000 DOLLARS, WHILE ADDING THAT FUNDING IS STILL IN LIMBO.

6. SECRETARIAT IS STILL EXPECTING LIST OF NAMES WE PROMISED THEM WITHIN FEB. 21 TIME FRAME.  
HARLAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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